

**EC Partner**

Haryana State Forestry  
Department

**Facts and Figures**

- EC contribution:  
€17.3m (72% of total  
budget)
- Duration: 1997-2010



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# Forestry

## Afforestation clean development mechanism project in Northern India

### Haryana Community Forestry Project

*"The impact of this project is far greater than expected and is in fact world class."*

Mr Newman, EC Monitoring Report

**Context**

In Northern India, the State of Haryana is surrounded by the severely eroded Shivalik and Aravalli hill ranges in the north and south respectively. The western part of the State bordering the Rajasthan desert is semi-arid with prevalent sand dunes. In the central plains, the soils are affected by salinity, alkalinity and water logging. A significant portion of community land in the entire State is degraded due to population pressure, over-cutting and over-grazing of vegetation.

**Objective**

- Improve the natural environment of the State of Haryana through sustainable management of natural resources and active participation of the village communities in eleven State districts.

**Impact**

- 370 hectares of afforestation has been certified by the clean development mechanism (CDM).
- The project reached out and brought social change to 337 villages with a total population of around 700 000 – more than 110 000 households.
- From village woodlots, farms and kitchen gardens to sand dunes, nearly 33 000 hectares have been planted with trees.
- Tree cover on common land has increased from 9% to 30-34% with survival rates of 80% and above.
- Environmental problems in project villages have been reduced by 50%

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#### Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) certification

This pilot project is the first small scale afforestation project in the world to be certified by the Kyoto Protocol Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

In this project, an afforestation area of 370ha of sand dune land belonging to 227 farmers in eight villages of Sirsa district, Haryana, has been selected for a carbon trading project within the Kyoto Protocol Clean Development Mechanism under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

A number of participatory appraisal exercises with stakeholder farmers were carried out, by-laws for a farmers' society to implement the project were framed and the society was registered.

Validation of the proposed project activity by a company accredited by UNFCCC was carried out through site inspection in April 2008. The proposed CDM project was approved by the UNFCCC CDM Executive Board on the 23 March 2009.

Project design document:

<http://cdm.unfccc.int/Projects/DB/TUEV-SUED1229620290.53/view>



CDM area - 9 hectares planted by 5 farmers